

IN THE CLAIMS:

1.-10. (cancelled)

11. (currently amended) A climate control device for a vehicle seat comprising:

a cushion core for supporting a passenger;

an upper air distribution device at a ~~front~~ first side of the cushion core facing the passenger to distribute air along the ~~front~~ first of the cushion core;

a lower air distribution device at a ~~rear~~ second side facing away from the passenger to distribute air along the ~~rear~~ second side of the cushion core; and

a connecting device for transferring air between the ~~first-and-second~~ upper and lower air distribution devices,

wherein each of the upper air distribution device, lower air distribution device and connecting device include an elongated hollow space, and wherein at least one supporting element in the form of a spring is provided in an air-conducting cross-section of at least one such hollow space.

12. (previously presented) A device according to claim 11 wherein at least one of the upper air distribution device, lower air distribution device and connecting device is provided with a base layer, an intermediate layer and a cover layer, the layers being arranged so as to at least partially overlap one another, and wherein the intermediate layer has at least one support element for the transmission of mechanical loads between the base layer and cover layer.

13. (currently amended) A device according to claim 12 comprising functional elements arranged in a space between the base layer, cover layer and the support element.

14. (previously presented) A device according to claim 13 wherein the function element is a sensor for detecting pressure or temperature, the sensor being arranged beneath the support element.

15. (previously presented) A device according to claim 13 wherein the functional element is an electrical conductor.

16. (previously presented) A device according to claim 15 wherein the electrical conductor comprises at least one heating component.

17. (previously presented) A device according to claim 16 wherein the at least one heating component comprises a PTC element.

18. (previously presented) A device according to claim 11 wherein the connecting device comprises at least one recess in the cushion core connected to an intermediate layer of the upper air distribution device or the an intermediate layer of the lower air distribution device so as to permit the passage of air.

19. (previously presented) A device according to claim 12 wherein the connecting device comprises at least one recess in the cushion core connected to an intermediate layer of the upper air distribution device or the an intermediate layer of the lower air distribution device so as to permit the passage of air.

20. (previously presented) A device according to claim 12 wherein at least a portion of the intermediate layer is routed around the cushion core at a side thereof, from its front side to its rear side, and wherein a conducting device is accommodated in said portion.

21. (previously presented) A device according to claim 19 wherein at least a portion of the intermediate layer is routed around the cushion core at a side

thereof, from its front side to its rear side, and wherein a conducting device is accommodated in said portion.

22. (previously presented) A device according to claim 11 wherein the cushion core comprises a plurality of recesses which connect a plurality of individual sections of an intermediate layer arranged on the cushion core or the upper air distribution device to an intermediate layer arranged under the cushion core or the lower air distribution device.

23. (previously presented) A device according to claim 22 wherein the plurality of sections are separated from one another and spaced apart.

24. (previously presented) A device according to claim 11 comprising an essentially liquid-impermeable layer arranged on a side of an intermediate layer facing the cushion core.

25. (previously presented) A device according to claim 24 wherein the essentially liquid-impermeable layer comprises the same material as the cushion core.

26. (currently amended) A device according to claim 12 comprising at least one heating conductor arranged in at least one intermediate space between at least two support elements in the intermediate layer, ~~or in an intermediate space formed by a support element in the intermediate layer.~~

27. (currently amended) A device according to claim 18 comprising at least one heating conductor arranged in at least one intermediate space between at least two support elements in the intermediate layer, ~~or in an intermediate space formed by a support element in the intermediate layer.~~

28. (previously presented) A device according to claim 11 comprising a plurality of elongated intermediate spaces formed by the support elements, and wherein at least one heating conductor is arranged in at least two such intermediate spaces.

29. (previously presented) A device according to claim 12 comprising a plurality of elongated intermediate spaces formed by the support elements, and wherein at least one heating conductor is fixed to the base layer or cover layer at a transition from one intermediate space to the other intermediate space.

30. (previously presented) A device according to claim 29 wherein the at least one heating element is fixed by an adhesive strip arranged substantially perpendicular to the intermediate spaces.